

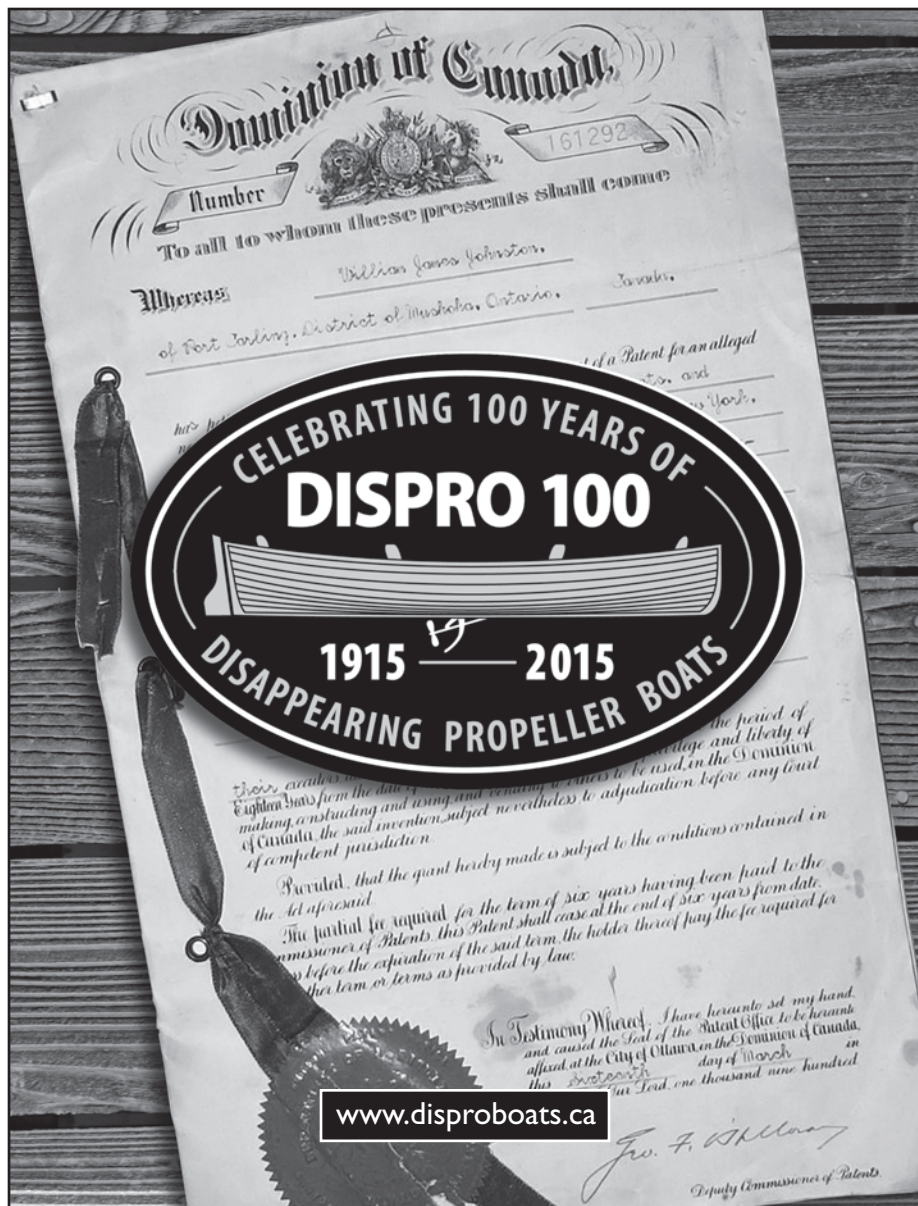
ISSUE 29

THE DEVICE

MAR 2015

DISPRO OWNERS

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



www.disproboats.ca



President's Letter • March 2015

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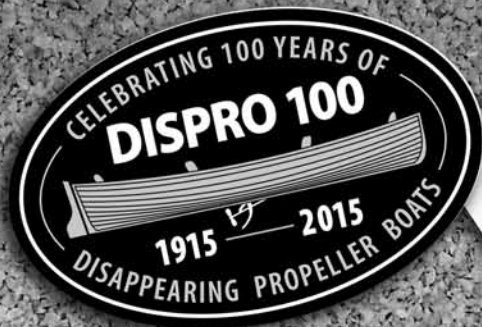
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K-W Coil Sparkettes

K-W Ignition was a Cleveland-based company, producing electrical equipment for automotive use from about 1908 to the 1940s. I've been past the site of both their locations but there's nothing left, at either 2813 Chester Ave. (I-90 is there now), and their later location, aptly named Power Ave. – a parking lot.

Want to know where the name K-W came from? Joseph A. Williams, president, was a mechanical engineer. He started as the president of the Williams Electric Co. He lived at 526 on Cleveland's famous Euclid Ave., and held his office in the Schofield Bldg.

Records show he didn't team up with William Kaple (the K of KW) until about 1914. Kaple was vice-president and lived at E-55, coincidentally where the Gockel family resided at about the same time. How K came first in the K-W relationship, and what his position was in the firm, is unknown.

On April 7, 1914, Williams was granted U.S. patent #1,092,417. Nowhere is there any mention of Kaple. The patent was for our familiar buzz coil with a protective cover over the points to keep unauthorized manipulation of the points down to zero! Look up the patent; it's lengthy, informative, but thorough: <http://www.pat2pdf.org/patents/pat1092417.pdf>

K-W got embroiled with Ford Motor Co., but many lawsuits ensued. That's another story.

But Williams, with his many improvements, did not invent the induction coil. It had been in use long before for scientific experiments and for sensational effects at freak shows. Here's one to consider:

In 1868, Mr. Apps built an induction coil for Professor Pepper (this was in England). It was complete with buzzer, primary and secondary coils and even a condenser. It's interesting to see they knew about all the necessary components to make it work successfully way back then. It was powered by a 40-cell Bunson battery. That battery might be a bit too large for our boats.

The copper wire in the primary circuit was two miles long; the copper wire of the secondary was 150 miles long. The area of the condenser was 375 square feet and the entire apparatus was eight feet long and weighed three-quarters of a ton. On a good day it could jump a spark two feet long.

With this coil tucked under our seats, I'm sure everyone could quote Greavette's 1939 claim, "Your ignition troubles are over!"

Paul W. Gockel



The Device is published 4 times a year in March, June, August and October. Deadlines for the submission of articles and photos is normally 2 weeks prior to the first day of these publication months.



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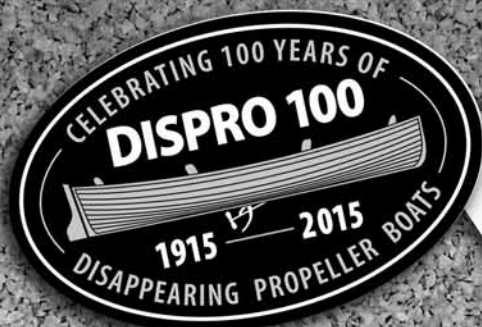
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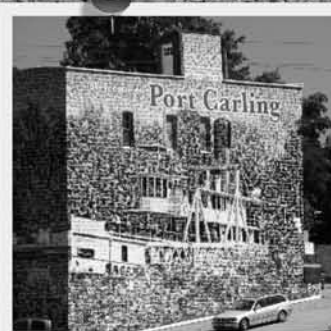
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MUSKOKA'S MOST MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

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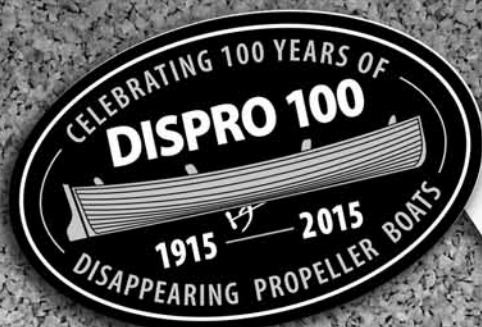
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The **37th DOA Regatta** will be held at **Clevelands House, Mlnett, Muskoka** on the weekend of **September 11-13**

Plan to Attend!



For questions contact: **Ian Dickson** ibdickson@cogeco.ca 905-977-1430
or: **Mary Storey** mstorey@cogeco.ca 705-684-9560

January Boat Show Display

The Centennial Year for DOA got off to a great start. The Antique and Classic Boat Society-Toronto (ACBS) invited DOA to provide a Dispro as part of their display at the Toronto International Boat Show in January. Our club's display was attractive and garnered a lot of attention.

It consisted of a 1922 Dispro, 3 large photo banners with pictures of recent regattas and facts about the boats which were flanked by other enlarged Dispro photos on easels. As part of the celebration "100th" balloons flew above. A device on a stand was available for the public to try pulling the lever, to demonstrate how the device works.

Many thanks to the Muskoka Lakes Museum, Port Carling for the loan of their 1922 Dispro, the same boat that the club had restored several years ago. Also thanks to President Eric for arranging, storing and transporting the boat. Tim DuVernet supplied the photos while Paul Jenner and Ian Dickson created the banners. Many club members volunteered in setting up the display, interpreting the display during the nine days of the show and dismantling the display. Many thanks to all of you.

The public was informed of our upcoming events at the ACBS Boat Show on July 11th and our Centennial Celebration on August 8th by the distribution of our event cards. Thanks to ACBS and all for a great show!

Mary Storey



Photo: Mary Storey



Photo: Mary Storey

The doctor was in the house! Paul Dodgington and John Storey chat in the DOA display area during the Toronto International Boat Show.

Correction to Regatta Registration Form

The price is \$651.50 which includes accommodation and meals for two people and \$471.70 which includes meals and accommodation for one person.

Accommodation for DOA Centennial Event on August 8th?

The club is setting up a Billeting Program for members. If you have an extra bedroom for use on the weekend of August 7-9, please call or email Helen Byrne. If you would like to stay in a member's home for the weekend August 7-9, please call or email Helen Byrne. If you are looking for hotel/ motel/ B&B accommodation, please call or email Helen Byrne or Mary Storey.

Helen Byrne
705-645-1121
Helen124@rogers.com

Mary Storey
705-684-9560
mstorey@cogeco.ca

DOA Shirts

Last chance to order Dispro blue and white stripped shirts. These will be very appropriate attire at the Centennial Celebration on August 8th. Please send order immediately to Mary Storey, 705-684-9560 or mstorey@cogeco.ca

Sizes: **Mens:** Small, Medium, Large, XL, XXL **Womens:** Small, Medium, Large, XL
Long Sleeve = \$34.00 • Short Sleeve = \$32.00